

AMENDMENTS

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Applicant submits herewith five pages of drawings that are considered to be formal drawings. Please replace Figures 1–6b in the drawings as filed with the enclosed substitute drawings. Please add Figure 7 as shown on the new drawing sheet. Figure 7 is a perspective view showing a bearing strip according to an embodiment of the invention. No new matter is added in these drawings.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Before line 1 on page 1, please insert the following section headings.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

Before line 1 on page 2, please insert the following section heading.

Description of Related Art

Before line 5 on page 4, please insert the following section heading.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Before line 29 on page 7, please insert the following section heading.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Before line 25 on page 8, please insert the following section heading.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Before line 25 on page 8, please insert the following paragraph:

- Figure 7 is a perspective view showing a bearing strip according to an embodiment of the invention.

Please replace the paragraph from line 16 on page 14 to line 7 on page 15, with the following paragraph:

In this way, the connection component 42, the blister 4 and the base plate 46 may each be made by being stamped (or moulded in respect of the base plate) directly on a respective bearing strip. In one embodiment of the present invention, a plurality of parts can be stamped on the bearing strip 60 as shown in figure 7. To advantage, the parts are only removed from their bearing strip 60 at the switch assembly site, which allows the bearing strip 60 to be used for packaging the parts. The parts, which may come from different sources of supply, will for example be packaged in their bearing strip 60 in a roll for transportation from the supplier to the assembly site. At this site, the bearing strips may be installed in a strip feed assembly programmable logic controller. Some of the parts, particularly the blister 4, may be coated with a protective film, for example a peelable plastic film, to avoid getting dirty or scratched during handling. This bearing strip packaging allows a more rational industrialisation relative to the conventional technique of separating the parts at their manufacturing source, then transporting them loose to a site for feeding onto vibration trays of a switch assembly line, possibly with packing and unpacking individually or in batches before and after transport. However, this technique can quite obviously be used for manufacturing the present switch.